



Governor's Energy Office

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GOVERNOR'S ENERGY OFFICE COMPLETES STATEWIDE ENERGY CODE TRAININGS

Advancing Colorado's New Energy Economy through Energy Efficient Buildings

DENVER – The Governor's Energy Office (GEO) announced that it has completed 30 statewide residential and commercial energy code training workshops. The workshops were held in conjunction with local building departments and focused on the 2003 and 2006 versions of the International Energy Conservation Codes (2003 IECC and 2006 IECC). In the past three months, more than 787 Colorado code officials and building industry professionals attended these workshops.

"GEO's energy code trainings have certainly helped local governments across the state understand measures that will enhance energy efficiency in buildings and reduce energy costs for taxpayers. We appreciate GEO's partnership with local governments and their efforts to aid local governments in developing locally appropriate energy efficiency standards." Dorothea Farris, Pitkin County Commissioner and President of Colorado Counties Inc.

During the 2007 legislative session, House Bill 07-1146 was passed in an effort to improve the energy efficiency of Colorado's new buildings as part of the New Energy Economy. HB 07-1146 calls for all jurisdictions that have a building code to adopt a minimum energy code standard effective July 1, 2008.

Training was delivered by a nationally recognized code training organization, International Code Council (ICC), and offered to local code officials, homebuilders, developers, architects, engineers and other building industry professionals. Additionally, all attendees received official code books, work book resources and continuing technical assistance from ICC.

The emphasis of training was placed upon learning the correct application of the code for design, plan review, inspection and analysis of residential and commercial buildings. Upon completion, participants are able to apply IECC requirements to clear-cut real world situations, explain the intent behind a given code requirement, and identify essential code components for designing energy efficient spaces.

Adopting energy codes for commercial and residential sectors are a key component of Governor Ritter's carbon reduction plan outlined in Colorado's Climate Action Plan. GEO has allocated more than \$225,000 of funding from the U.S. Department of Energy and Colorado's Clean Energy Fund to assist jurisdictions with the energy code adoption process and paid for all of the trainings.

"These trainings provided technical education and resources to local jurisdictions regarding Colorado's first ever adoption of an energy code standard," said Eric Stern, senior program manager at GEO. "The attendees have told us that these trainings will help them better communicate with builders and communities on energy efficiency issues. Also, with more efficient buildings, they are now helping their communities control energy costs and use."

Code officials and building departments who were unable to participate in a workshop can request complimentary 2006 IECC code books and Colorado-specific workbooks, or request a local training for their jurisdiction through the Governor's Energy Office at www.colorado.gov/energy.

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